

Policy 6. Enhance the Public Realm of City Dock and its Environs.

City Dock and its environs are fundamental to the city's character and identity as a small seaport town with a rich history. Main Street has been designated one of Ten Great Streets in America by the American Planning Association for its role as a living museum, a place that makes significant contributions to Annapolis' downtown economy at the same time that the entire downtown remains physically and visually connected to its history, maritime culture, and architectural character.

Given the importance of the City Dock area to Annapolis, a plan for its future must be developed with broad participation by the entire community, as well as downtown residents and businesses. A plan for the public realm of City Dock and its environs should begin with forming a Vision, from which specific implementation steps be developed. Such a plan should update or replace the 1993 *Ward One Sector Study*, which has been the guiding planning document for the downtown area.

The plan shall deem the public property from the Dock to and including the Market House to be Civic Space for residents of the city. The plan shall be drafted by the Planning & Zoning Department with the advice of a committee representative of residents, downtown merchants and representatives of maritime interests and with the assistance of such professional consultants as are deemed necessary. The Plan, which shall be presented to the City Council by September 1, 2010, shall:

- ▶ Maximize public access to the waterfront;
- ▶ Maximize pedestrian and bicycle friendly features;
- ▶ Incorporate a variety of open places, both large and small, for people to congregate for various purposes;
- ▶ Accommodate boats of all types, as well as docking for cruise boats, commercial vessels, and water taxis;
- ▶ When hosting public events, balance the needs and interests of residents, businesses, and the event;
- ▶ Include a transportation element which will clear the proposed Civic Space of parking places for motor vehicles, and provide an alternate nearby site for such parking and/or remote parking with shuttle transportation;
- ▶ Propose measures, including those related to transportation and parking, which are necessary to keep existing Dock Street merchants viable.